Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.   (original): A communication method in a communication system wherein a first information processing apparatus and a second information processing apparatus perform communication with each other over a network, comprising steps of:

providing, on said network, a third information processing apparatus for pooling a plurality of for-rent-out virtual addresses to be temporarily used by said first information processing apparatus;

requesting, by said first information processing apparatus, said third information processing apparatus to rent out a virtual address when said first information processing apparatus performs said communication with said second information processing apparatus;

renting out, by said third information processing apparatus, said virtual address on the basis of said request; and

sending out, by said first information processing apparatus, a communication packet whose transmission-source address is set up by said virtual address and whose transmission-destination address is set up by an address of said second information processing apparatus.

2.   (currently amended): A third information processing apparatus provided on a network and performing rent-out of an address, ~~wherein~~ said third

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information processing apparatus ~~holds~~ comprising:

a correspondence table having a correspondence relationship between an

inherent address and said rent-out address, ~~and~~

wherein said inherent address is allocated to a first information processing

apparatus which is a rent-out destination of said address, and

wherein said rent-out address ~~being~~ is rented out to said first information

processing apparatus by said third information processing apparatus.

3.   (currently amended): A third information processing apparatus

provided on a network and performing rent-out of an address, ~~wherein~~ said third

information processing apparatus ~~holds~~ comprising:

a correspondence table having a correspondence relationship among an

inherent address, said rent-out address, and an address of a second information

processing apparatus, ~~and~~

wherein said inherent address is allocated to a first information processing

apparatus which is a rent-out destination of said address,

wherein said rent-out address ~~being~~ is rented out to said first information

processing apparatus by said third information processing apparatus, and

wherein said second information processing apparatus ~~being~~ is a partner

information processing apparatus with which said first information processing

apparatus performs communication using said rent-out address.

4.   (original): The third information processing apparatus according to

claim 3, wherein, in response to an inquiry from said second information processing

apparatus, said third information processing apparatus notifies said second

information processing apparatus of said inherent address allocated to said first

information processing apparatus.

5.   (original): The third information processing apparatus according to

claim 4, wherein permission to issue said notification is given only in a case of a

combination of said address of said second information processing apparatus and

said inherent address allocated to said first information processing apparatus, said

address of said second information processing apparatus and said inherent address

having a correspondence relationship in said correspondence table, and no

permission is given to said notification in a case of a combination that does not exist

in said correspondence table.

6.   (original): A second information processing apparatus provided on a

network and performing communication with a first information processing

apparatus, wherein said second information processing apparatus makes an inquiry

about an inherent address of said first information processing apparatus to a third

information processing apparatus that holds a correspondence table, and

said correspondence table has a correspondence relationship among said

inherent address of said first information processing apparatus, a rent-out address

rented out to said first information processing apparatus, and an address of said

second information processing apparatus.

7.   (original): A first information processing apparatus provided on a

network, wherein, when said first information processing apparatus performs

communication with a second information processing apparatus over said network,

said first information processing apparatus requests a third information processing

apparatus to rent out an address to be temporarily used by said first information

processing apparatus,

said first information processing apparatus then sends out a communication

packet whose transmission-source address is set up by said address thus rented,

and whose transmission-destination address is set up by an address of said second

information processing apparatus.